



2008 Edufest Parent Institute

Potential at Risk: *Concerns about Underachievement Among Gifted Students*

Presenters - Dr. Susan Baum and Daphne Pereles

Saturday, July 26th, 8:30-3:00 p.m.

Boise State University Student Union Building, Boise, Idaho

Are your children working up to their potential? Are they intrinsically motivated to master the curriculum and encouraged to become creative producers? Many factors influence optimum achievement such as appropriate curriculum, social and emotional comfort, and the presence of learning disability, attention deficit or other kinds of special needs (the twice exceptional student). This interactive presentation will provide an overview of the factors contributing to underachievement pattern among gifted children and suggest strategies for helping youngsters reverse individual patterns of underachievement.

Recognizing creativity in children who have not yet developed their talents can be very difficult and it is often mistaken for other things. Creative children frequently display characteristics that can be mistaken for ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, Bipolar disorder, or any number of different psychiatric syndromes or disorders. To further complicate matters, some disorders do frequently coexist with creativity, in the family if not in the creative child him or herself. This institute will focus on recognizing creativity as positive potential, encouraging it to nurture optimal mental health, and celebrating it with your child.



Dr. Susan Baum is co-director of the International Center for Talent Development and Director of Professional Development at Bridges Academy, a school for twice exceptional students. Susan is a leading expert in the field of gifted students with learning and attention issues.

She is widely published in the areas of twice exceptional students, primary-aged gifted students, and social and emotional factors affecting gifted students. Her books include *Creativity 1,2,3*; *Chi Square, Pie Charts and Me*; and *To Be Gifted and Learning Disabled: Strategies for Helping Gifted Students with LD, ADHD and more*. She is co-author of *Toolkit for Teens: A Guide for Helping Adolescents Manage Stress* and the popular book, *Multiple Intelligences in the Elementary Classroom: A Teacher's Toolkit*, written in collaboration with Howard Gardner.

Daphne Pereles, M.S., is a supervisor for the Colorado Department of Education, Exceptional Students Leadership Unit. She is currently involved in the statewide Response to Intervention initiative. For 15 years, she worked in Cherry Creek School District as a learning disabilities specialist, a gifted and talented specialist, and as a member of the Student Achievement Services Leadership Team. She served as the coordinator for the learning disabilities teachers in the district as well as being the twice-exceptional specialist K-12 through the gifted and talented office.



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Kidfest
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Edufest Parent Institute Registration

Registration is separate from week-long **Edufest** registration

Parent Institute (includes materials, lunch, and parking pass)

Before July 15: \$55 one parent \$75 two people interested in the same child

After July 15 and On-site: \$60 one parent, \$80 two people interested in the same child

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